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DIRECT EDITION

QUASAR™

GRAPPLING THE GEOMETER!™

WENDELL VAUGHN. . . THE FIRST EARTH MAN EVER APPOINTED PROTECTOR OF THE UNIVERSE. BONDED TO THE ENERGY-TRANSFORMING QUANTUM-BANDS THAT ARE BOTH WEAPONS AND SYMBOLS OF HIS STATION, HE FIGHTS AN ONGOING BATTLE TO DEFEND ALL LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE FROM COSMIC EVIL!

Stan Lee presents

QUASAR

AT PROJECT: PEGASUS, THE GOVERNMENT'S EXPERIMENTAL ENERGY RESEARCH FACILITY, A BAD SITUATION HAS JUST GOTTEN WORSE.

HOPING TO ELIMINATE ONE THREAT, THE COSMIC CRUSADER QUASAR SEEMS TO HAVE CREATED AN EVEN GREATER ONE...

IS... IS THAT THE ANGLER?

UH, I DON'T THINK SO, KAYLA. UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, THAT'S THE GUY WHO MADE THE ANGLER SO DARN ANGULAR!

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E+N+X≠R²

SORRY, GUY-- I DON'T HAVE THE *SLIGHTEST IDEA* WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.

BUT I DON'T THINK ANYONE WILL APPRECIATE *YOU* RUNNING AMOK IN THE PROJECT ANY MORE THAN THEY DID THE *ANGLER*--

VZZZM

--SO WHAT SAY WE USE THIS *DIMENSIONAL PROJECTOR* TO SEND YOU RIGHT BACK WHERE YOU *CAME FROM*, HMM?

VRRRT

LOOK OUT!

uIp.

KAYLA, DO ME A FAVOR AND RUN DOWN THAT *CORRIDOR* TO MY RIGHT. *NOW*... PLEASE?

OH--OKAY.

I'LL QUANTUM-BAND A *CONTAINMENT VESSEL* FOR THIS UNIDENTIFIED LIFEFORM...

...THEN I'M GETTING HIM THE HECK *OUT* OF THIS PLACE!

NOT ONLY COULD HE *HURT* AS MANY PEOPLE AS THE *ANGLER* DID ON HIS RAMPAGE--*

--BUT THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF HE SHOULD MUCK WITH THE *NUCLEAR REACTOR*, *MAGMA TAP*, *GRAVITY DRUM*, OR ANY OF THE *OTHER* EXPERIMENTAL ENERGY SOURCES HERE!

*LAST ISSUE.

OR THE *LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEM*, FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!

LET'S SEE... I'M ON THE *ADMINISTRATION LEVEL*. FOUR LEVELS TO GO BEFORE I HIT THE *SURFACE*!

HOPE THE *FREIGHT ELEVATOR'S EMPTY*!

FREIGHT ELE

SACRED GEOMETRIES

THIS IS SECURITY. WE ACKNOWLEDGE. WE'LL SEE WHAT WE CAN DO.

IN LUCK. VACANT.

THIS IS QUASAR. I'M ON LEVEL D, ELEVATOR BANK 7. I HAVE IN CUSTODY A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS INTRUDER. PLEASE CLEAR THE FREIGHT DOCK. PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE.

NOT SURE WHAT I'M GOING TO DO WITH HIM ONCE I HAVE HIM OUT OF THE BUILDING...

...BUT AT LEAST I WON'T HAVE THE THOUSAND AND CHANGE EMPLOYEES OF THE PROJECT TO WORRY ABOUT...

WOW, KIND OF FEELS LIKE OLD TIMES PROTECTING THE PROJECT FROM SOME ESOTERIC MENACE--

--JUST LIKE BACK WHEN I WAS THE PROJECT'S SECURITY CHIEF!*

SQUOOH

*NOTABLY IN MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #53-58.--MIKE-IN-ONE.

WHAT WAS--?

MY QUANTUM CONSTRUCT--HE'S *DECONSTRUCTED* IT!!!

I'M STUCK IN AN ELEVATOR WITH SOMEONE WHO CAN BURST *QUANTUM BUBBLES!*

UH, NICE WEATHER WE'RE HAVING, HUH?

UH-OH!

VOOR

VWWWM

VC+N+R

NNNNHHHH...

REPEAT: **CLEAR** THE LOADING DOCK, PARTICULARLY FREIGHT BAYS 5 THROUGH 8! REPEAT: **CLEAR** THE--

AT THAT MOMENT, SOMEWHERE ALONG THE VIRGINIA COAST...

...TWO OF THE PROJECT'S SUPERHUMAN OPERATIVES...

...WIND UP THEIR THREE-DAY PURSUIT OF AN ALLEGED CRIMINAL...

JUST A FEW MORE SECONDS FIGHTING THE *WHIZZER'S GALE-FORCE UPDRAFT*--

--AND THIS *ION* LADY AND HER ENERGY PLUMAGE WILL BE CONTAINED INSIDE MY *PRISMATIC PILLBOX!*

THERE!

NOW TO SLAP THE *LID* ON!

WAY TO *WAIL*, WHIZ!

WE'RE THE *TEAM EXTREME SPECTRUM!*

RACE YA BACK TO THE PROJECT?

AS IF I STOOD A CHANCE!

THE PROJECT...

ANDY, LOOK UP!

WHOA!

N+A≈√LYXO÷E+1/E

FALL IN! BOTH SIDES! FORM AN ESCORT!

SHIELD! LOOK OUT--IT SEES US!

THIS IS THE BLUE SHIELD! STAY RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE! WE HAVE YOU SURROUNDED!

HE'S IGNORING US. SET STUNNERS ON S. ON MY SIGNAL--

FIRE!

UZOOK

SIR--OUR BLASTS AREN'T *TOUCHING* HIM!

IT'S LIKE HE'S BENDING THE BEAMS AROUND HIS *BODY!*

THUNK

HEY!

WHAT IN--?

HE'S *NEGATED GRAVITY* SOMEHOW!

QUASAR...?

QUASAR!!!

ARE YOU--

MY GOD! YOUR FACE--!

NEARBY...

WHAT IN THE NAME OF XENON HAS CAUSED THE FLOOR TO BECOME *TRANSPARENT* IN PLACES--

--OH!

THAT MUST BE THE *CREATURE* QUASAR REPORTED ON THE LOOSE!

VLF+N

WELL, I WASN'T THAT MUCH HELP AGAINST THE *ANGLER*-- MAYBE I CAN DO *BETTER* HERE!

THE NAME'S *HYPERION*, PAL--

--DON'T BOTHER TELLING ME *YOURS*.

HEY, HE'S--

NYUUH!

THOOM

THISS

I'M BEING TWISTED INTO *KNOTS* LIKE MY BONES WERE RUBBER--BUT THAT'S *IMPOSSIBLE!* MY BONES ARE LIKE *STEEL!*

IS THIS SOME KIND OF *ILLUSION?*

IF IT *IS* AN ILLUSION, IT'S A PRETTY *DEBILITATING* ONE!

I CAN'T <N+N-1+N+2+ N-3=A>

AND...

NNNNH...

TAKE IT EASY, QUASAR--

--I'LL HAVE YOU IN THE *INFIRMARY* IN A MINUTE!

GOT TO...GOT TO <> TO *EPOCH* FIND OUT WHAT THE MENACE TO PEGASUS IS ABOUT...

EPOCH, COME IN... THIS IS Q-R...

HELLO, QUASAR...ARE YOU NOT WELL?

PARTLY *TRANSFORMED* BY A <N>...GOT TO HELP ME *SOLVE FOR N.*

THREE FLOORS BELOW...

WHERE THE HECK AM I? THIS PLACE IS LIKE A MAZE!

I WISH WENDELL WOULDN'T ALWAYS TAKE OFF AND LEAVE ME ALONE ALL THE TIME!

I DIDN'T EVEN GET A CHANCE TO TELL HIM THAT SOMEHOW I'VE GOT THAT STUPID STARBRAND POWER BACK!

NOT THAT IT ISN'T HANDY, I JUST--HEY! WHY AM I WALKING WHEN I COULD BE FLYING?!?

AHH, THAT'S BETTER.

I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW MUCH I MISSED THIS SENSATION!

HEY, I HEAR FOOTSTEPS!

EXCUSE ME, SIR!

HUNH--?

WHO'RE--?

I NEED TO FIND QUASAR. CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE HE IS?

UM, UM--

THERE WAS AN ALARM. WHERE'S THE ALARM SITE?

UH, LEVEL ONE.

AND HOW DO I GET THERE?

END OF THIS CORRIDOR IS A ZOOM TUBE!

THANKS!

YOU'RE WELCOME.

WHEW!

LEVEL ONE...

$\left(\frac{E+R+L}{7}\right) \times N = \left(\frac{7}{X+P}\right)$

WHAT IN--?

SFFF

WHAT'S THAT THING *DOING*--?!?

DRAWING SOME SORT OF *SHAPE* IN THE AIR?

WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S *EXPANDING*!!!

BUT THEN...!

I'LL TAKE *THAT*, IF YOU DON'T MIND!

WHZZZT

WHOAAA! WHAT DID I RUN *INTO*? A *GRAVITY-FREE ZONE*? I CAN'T GET A GRIP ON THE *GROUND*!

UH-OH.

SPEC! HAND OFF!

GOT IT!

BUT WHAT *IS* THAT WONKY LOOKING CREATURE?

BEATS ME! BUT IT'S DOING A NUMBER ON THE *GRAVITY* WITHIN THIS *GEOMETRICAL CONSTRUCT* IT'S MADE.

INSIDE...

REALLY, LARK... I'LL BE OKAY!

HEY! GET US DOWN!

WE'VE GOT THE PROJECT TO WORRY ABOUT!

GRAB HOLD!

WHEW! I FEARED THEY'D ALL BEEN MADE LIGHTER THAN AIR--

--BUT ACTUALLY THEY'RE ALL JUST STUCK IN SOME SORT OF GRAVITY INVERSION ZONE--

--AND AS SOON AS I PULL THEM OUT OF IT, THEY'RE BACK TO NORMAL!

THANKS, QUASAR!

HEY, WHAT HAPPENED TO--

I'VE BEEN PARTIALLY ANGLE-LATED BY OUR MYSTERY GUEST!

ONCE MORE, OUTSIDE...

BLAST IT! THIS DOOHICKEY OF HIS MUST BE THE THING THAT'S CREATED THAT EXPANDING DODECAHEDRON--

--BUT FOR THE LIFE OF ME I CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW TO WORK IT!

I'M A SCIENTIST! LET ME TRY!

NO, YOU'RE AN ESCAPED FELON, THANKS ANYWAY!

THE LARGER THAT SHAPE GETS, THE GREATER THE AREA OF NO-GRAVITY! AND I THINK IT'S EXTENDING UNDERGROUND, TOO!

THIS COULD WREAK MAJOR LEAGUE DAMAGE IF IT'S NOT HALTED AND SOON!

WHOA!

HEY, ION! YOU COULD'VE WARNED ME.

YES, HAD I AN INCENTIVE TO DO SO.

SPDURRF

NNNYYGK--?

I'VE BEEN-- TURNED-- PAPER-THIN!

IT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.

THUDD

UH-UH, I'LL TAKE THAT!

GOT YOU, WHIZ!

ALL RIGHT, MISTER--WE'VE GOT TO TALK. YOU MAY NOT BE A BAD GUY, BUT YOU'RE A BULL IN A CHINA SHOP MAKING A BIG MESS HERE--

--NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH IS MY FACE!

SO LET'S--

EXCUSE ME, I'VE GOT A CALL.

I HAVE LEARNED THE **IDENTITY** OF YOUR MENACE.

GREAT, EPPY! **SPILL IT!**

HE'S A **GEOMETER** WHO WAS BORN ABOUT **THREE BILLION YEARS AGO**, A MEMBER OF A LONG-EXTINCT RACE.

HE WAS THE FIRST ENTITY TO CREATE A **MATHEMATICAL EQUATION** TO FULLY DESCRIBE THE **WORKINGS** OF THE UNIVERSE -- FROM **ATOMS** TO **GALAXIES**.

THEY BELIEVED HIS EQUATION WAS SO **PERFECT**, SO **ELEGANT**, SO **INCLUSIVE**, THAT IT SIMPLY **HAD** TO BE TRUE.

BUT THEN A FELLOW SCIENTIST MADE A PHYSICAL **OBSERVATION** THAT COULD NOT BE **ACCOUNTED FOR** BY HIS EQUATION.

HE WAS **PROUD** OF HIS WORK. IT GAVE HIM **GREAT STATUS** AMONG HIS SCHOLARLY PEOPLE.

DISILLUSIONED THAT THE PHYSICAL UNIVERSE WOULD **BETRAY** HIM, HE **LEFT** TO FIND A UNIVERSE MORE **MATHEMATICALLY PLEASING** TO HIM.

THAT'S THE **LAST** RECORDED HISTORY **HEARD** OF HIM.

MMM. I CAN TRY.

WOW. ANY CHANCE YOU CAN *TRANSLATE* WHAT HE'S BEEN SAYING TO US?

TALK TO ME, SIR. WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO **DO** HERE?

COME ON! MY COSMIC BUDDY EPPY IS TRANSLATING. I KNOW YOU CAN UNDERSTAND ME, CAN'T YOU?

TALK TO ME, I'M NOT SUCH A BAD GUY.

OKAY...

...I'M NOT GIVING YOU YOUR INSTRUMENT OR WHATEVER IT IS TILL YOU COMMUNICATE.

WHULLP!

WOW!

HE FIRED IT--

--FULLY CHANGED ME--

--GRABBED IT!

O GREAT GEOMETER, I AM A HUMBLE SEEKER OF KNOWLEDGE. WHILE I KNOW YOU TO BE THE GREATEST THEORIST THE UNIVERSE HAS SEEN--

--I WISH TO BE ENLIGHTENED AS TO WHERE YOU HAVE BEEN FOR ALL THESE EONS!

<THOUGH IMPERTINENT AS YINGAR THE DISSEMBLER, YOU DO SEEM AUTHENTICALLY *INQUISITIVE*. I WILL *INDULGE* YOUR REQUEST.>

<I *LEFT* THIS UNIVERSE OF MY BIRTH FOR I WAS NOT CONTENT WITH ITS *PHYSICAL PROPERTIES*.>

<I SEARCHED TO DISCOVER A REALM MORE TO MY LIKING, BUT *COULD NOT*. HOWEVER, AFTER A TIME I DID FIND THE *LATHE OF PERFECTION*-->

<--A RECEPTACLE OF *METAMORPHIC ENERGY*. USING IT I SET ABOUT FINISHING THE *CREATOR-FORCE'S WORK*-- CORRECTING, REFINING, AND ADJUSTING THE *INACCURACIES* IN CREATION.

<FOR BILLIONS OF YEARS I HAVE BEEN AT WORK, *FIXING* ONE UNIVERSE AFTER ANOTHER.

<THEN, I CHANCED UPON A *TRAVELER* WHOSE RESONANCE TOLD ME HE WAS FROM THE UNIVERSE OF *MY BIRTH*. I ATTEMPTED TO *PERFECT* HIM, BUT HE FLED INCOMPLETE.>

THAT WAS THE *ANGLER*! ALL THIS TIME HE MUST'VE BEEN TRYING TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO GET *BACK* TO THE GEOMETER AND GET HIM TO TRANSFORM HIMSELF *BACK TO NORMAL*!

STILL, I MANAGED TO TRACE HIS *DISHARMONIC TRAIL* TO THE POINT OF HIS ORIGIN AND WHEN THE *PORTAL* WAS OPENED, *STEPPED THROUGH*.>

<NOW, I EMBARK UPON MY *MOST IMPORTANT WORK*, RENDERING THE GEOMETRY OF MY *UNIVERSE OF ORIGIN*, ACCORDING TO THE *SACRED ORIGIN*.>

<SO... YOU'RE TRYING TO MAKE OUR WORLD MORE *MATHEMATICALLY PERFECT*... ISN'T THAT RATHER... *INVOLVED*?

ON WHAT LEVEL DO YOU *AFFECT* THINGS? MOLECULAR? PLANETWIDE? *GALAXY-WIDE*?

<I CHANGE THE *UNIVERSAL MEASURE* HERE-- WITHIN THIS DODECHADRON-- AND AS IT *EXPANDS*, IT TRANSFORMS *ALL MATTER* WITHIN ITS VOLUME!>

BUT EVEN AT THE *SPEED OF LIGHT*, TO AFFECT OUR WHOLE UNIVERSE WOULD TAKE *BILLIONS OF YEARS!*

I AM *PATIENT.*

THERE'S *QUASAR.* FINALLY.

HIS BODY-- THAT CREATURE *DID* SOMETHING TO IT!

WHAT SHOULD I DO--?

HEY! SINCE WHEN DO YOU *FLY?*

LONG ENOUGH.

WHAT'S GOING *ON* HERE?

QUASAR'S TRYING TO TALK THAT *BIG GUY* OUT OF WRECKING THE UNIVERSE AS WE KNOW IT, I THINK!

BET HE COULD USE *HELP!*

ALL RIGHT, BUSTER, CHANGE MY BOYFRIEND BACK TO *FLESH*-- OR I'M GOING TO BLOW A *HOLE* THROUGH YOUR HEAD STRAIGHT TO THE *GROUND.*

KAY-- *FLYING* AGAIN?!?

KAYLA, THIS IS *NOT* A GOOD ⟨R≠mto÷1/x⟩

ARRRH! I'M SPEAKING *ALIENESE* AGAIN! MY BRAIN IS BEING *AFFECTED* BY MY TRANSFORMATION!

QUASAR? WHAT ARE YOU *SAYING*?

HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S ABOUT TO *ATTACK!*

⟨THE ENTITY ATOP ME WIELDS *UNNATURAL ENERGY!* SHE IS NOT OF THIS SYSTEM OF UNIVERSES!⟩

⟨THAT'S *RIGHT*, GEOMETER! SHE IS *CONTAMINATED* BY ENERGY FROM... UH, *WAY OUT THERE!* AND BECAUSE OF THAT, SHE CAN'T BE *AFFECTED* BY YOUR LATHE!⟩

⟨HATE TO TELL YOU THIS, BUT THIS *WHOLE UNIVERSE* IS RIDDLED WITH SUCH CONTAMINATION. IT'S NOT A PRISTINE PLACE--THERE ARE POCKETS OF *ANOMALOUS CRUD* ALL OVER.⟩

⟨IF YOU ARE PROPOSING I *ABANDON* MY SACRED MISSION HERE--⟩

⟨UH, *NOT EXACTLY*. I'M JUST SAYING THIS UNIVERSE IS WAY TOO *DIRTY* NOW FOR YOU TO EVER ATTAIN YOUR *PERFECT MEASURES*...⟩

⟨WHAT YOU SHOULD DO IS GO BACK TO THE *DAWN OF TIME*--ALTER THE *VALUES OF THE UNIVERSE* AT THE VERY MOMENT THEY COME INTO *BEING!*⟩

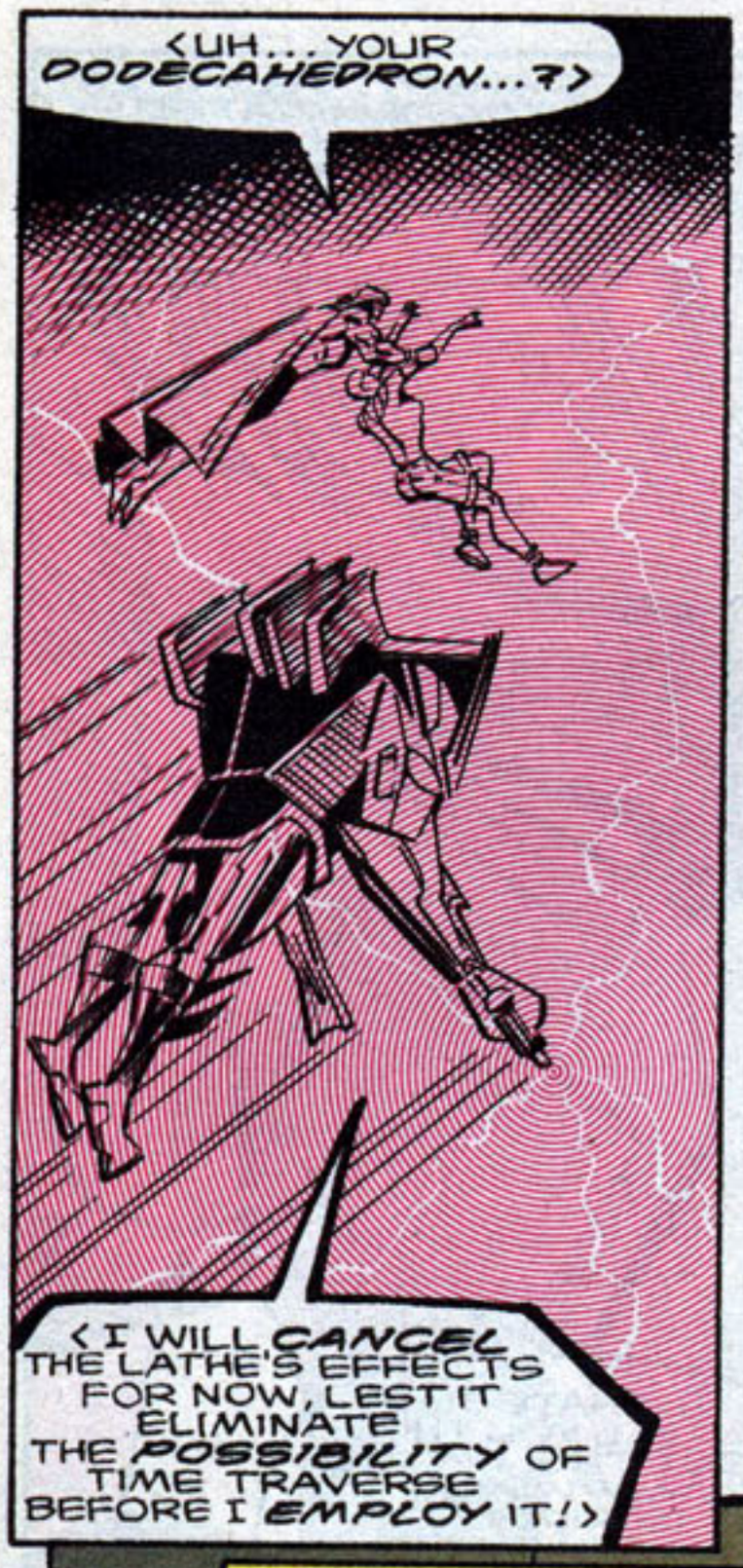
⟨TRAVEL BACK THROUGH TIME? WHAT AN *ODD NOTION*...⟩

⟨CAN ENTITIES IN THIS UNIVERSE *ACCOMPLISH* SUCH?⟩

⟨*SOME* CAN. THOUGH IT'S BEYOND THE ABILITY OF MOST OF MY PEOPLE AT *THIS* TIME.⟩

⟨MY THEORY DOES NOT *ALLOW* FOR THE PHENOMENON. YET, WERE I TO *EMPLOY* SUCH, I COULD ACCOMPLISH IN A *MOMENT* MORE THAN WHAT I HAVE MANAGED IN *BILLIONS OF YEARS*.

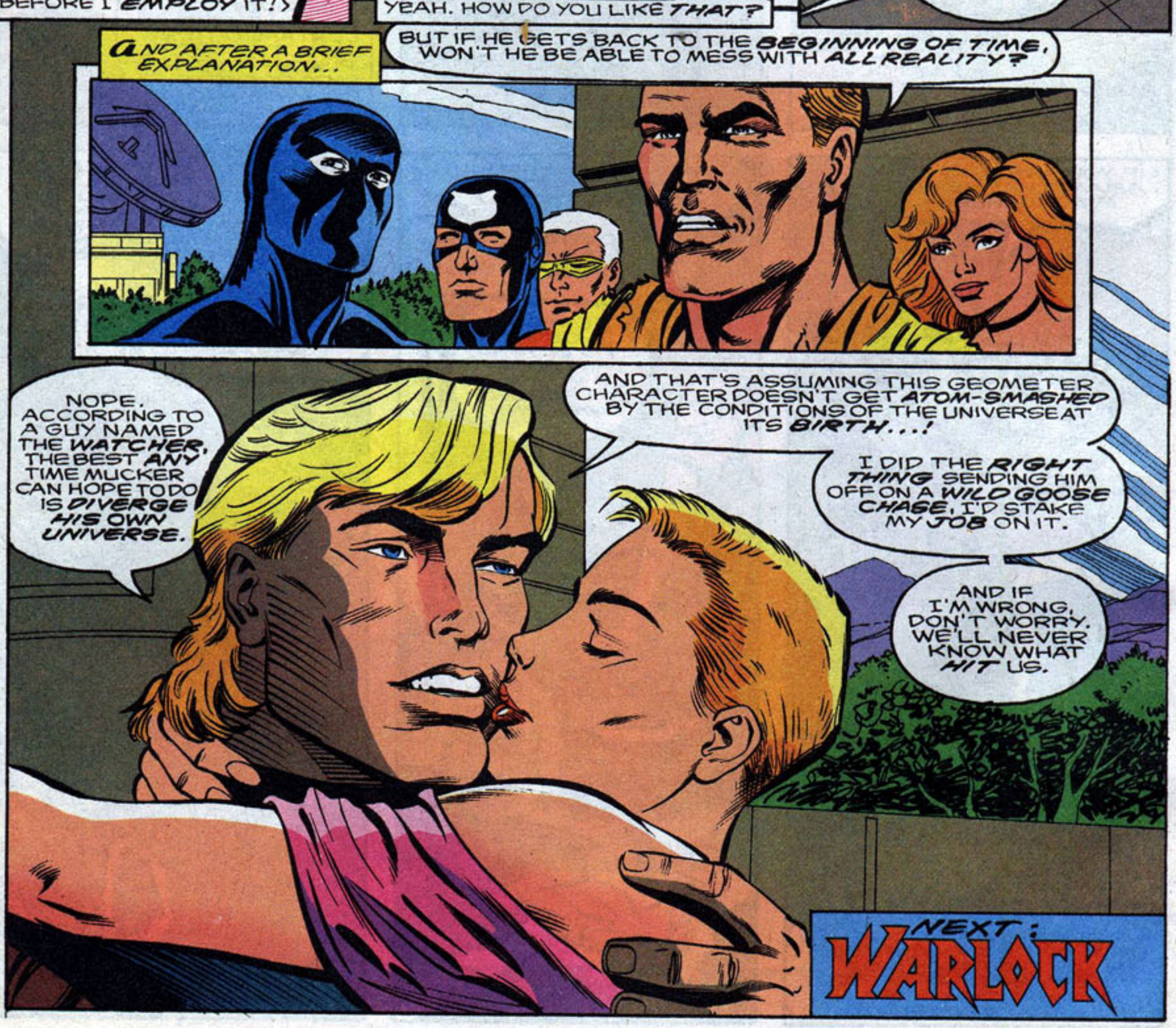
⟨I GO NOW TO UNLOCK THE MYSTERY OF *TIME TRAVERSE!* SEEKER OF KNOWLEDGE, YOU HAVE BEEN *HELPFUL* TO ME.⟩


〈UH... YOUR DODECAHEDRON...?〉
〈I WILL CANCEL THE LATHE'S EFFECTS FOR NOW, LEST IT ELIMINATE THE POSSIBILITY OF TIME TRAVERSE BEFORE I EMPLOY IT!〉

HEY, QUASAR! HOW'D YOU GET IT TO TURN ALL HIS TOPOGRAPHICAL ALTERATION BACK TO NORMAL?
I USED MY LEAST REGARDED WEAPON -- MY BRAIN.

AND AFTER A BRIEF EXPLANATION...

BUT IF HE GETS BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF TIME, WON'T HE BE ABLE TO MESS WITH ALL REALITY?


NOPE. ACCORDING TO A GUY NAMED THE WATCHER, THE BEST ANY TIME MUCKER CAN HOPE TO DO IS DIVERGE HIS OWN UNIVERSE.
AND THAT'S ASSUMING THIS GEOMETER CHARACTER DOESN'T GET ATOM-SMASHED BY THE CONDITIONS OF THE UNIVERSE AT ITS BIRTH...!
I DID THE RIGHT THING SENDING HIM OFF ON A WILD GOOSE CHASE, I'D STAKE MY JOB ON IT.
AND IF I'M WRONG, DON'T WORRY. WE'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT HIT US.

NEXT: WARLOCK

QUANTUM QUORUM

MIKE ROCKWITZ: EDITOR JOE ANDREANI: ASSISTANT EDITOR

C/O MARVEL COMICS 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10016

Dear Quantum Quorum,

I have been reading QUASAR since the "Journey into Mystery" storyline (issues #13-16) and have never stopped enjoying it. Quasar is one of the few characters in the entire comic industry that I would be proud to call my friend if he were a real person. He is honest, friendly, and above all, a good person. This is the signature of a Mark Gruenwald hero.

Questions and comments about issue #46 and beyond:

1. I may be hallucinating but the Blazing Skull looks familiar. For the life of me, I can't place him. Is he a character Mark has rediscovered for us or is he new?

2. I am definitely not hallucinating: Shadowoman's costume is the same as Spider-Woman 1's! (What was yellow on Jessica is blue-gray on Jillian.) At first I thought when I saw the last page of #45 that Jessica Drew was still alive. But since Shadowoman was called Jillian, I guess they're not the same. So who is she and where has she appeared before?

3. Is Mark a big Doctor Druid fan? First he appears in Captain America, then in "Citizen Kang." Whatever the reason, I like it.

4. What kind of cover enhancement will issue #50 have?

5. Will there be an annual in 1994? I'll bet there are many readers who haven't written who would like to see 64 pages of universal protection!

6. Will there be a Quasar/Warlock/Silver Surfer crossover?

7. I am very pleased with Andy Smith's pencils. I was worried the art would suffer when Greg Capullo left for X-FORCE but Andy put those fears to rest. Some artists do three or four issues before hitting their stride, but not Andy! He hit the ground running and hasn't stopped. What other work has he done?

Thank you for putting out a quality and entertaining book. QUASAR is thought-provoking, inspirational. and just plain fun!

Todd Adam Gross
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Thanks for the kind words, Todd– we agree that Quasar's personality is quite extraordinary in comics today. To answer your questions: 1. Not new, keep reading this page. 2. Shadowoman is new, and the secret of her costume similarity will eventually be answered. 3. Mark is a huge fan of all balding heroes, go figure. 4. You know by now. 5. Nope, sorry. 6. Yes, #50 saw the Surf; next issue sees Warly! 7. QUASAR is Andy-boy's first regular assignment!

Dear Mike and Mark,

Nice to see two of the most underrated characters at Marvel finally get something resembling steady employment in QUASAR #46. I speak, of course, of Doctor Anthony Druid and N'Kantu the Living Mummy. Don't let the Shock Troop fade away like previous Marvel attempts at a horror team, such as the Legion of Monsters, Night Shift, the Legion of Night... Need I go on?

Anyway, Doc Druid deserves every appearance he gets; ten or twenty more may make up for the humiliation in the AVENGERS some years ago (I may forgive, but I do not forget). As for the Living Mummy (not that anyone actually calls him that), the main question is how did he get out of Egypt where we last saw him in CAPTAIN AMERICA? Also, when he speaks with Doc in #46, are they talking in English or ancient Egyptian? Both are plausible, considering that Doc knows obscure languages, but it's not made clear in the story. Or are they communicating telepathically?

The Blazing Skull was before my time, so I don't know how the present one compares to the original, and Shadowoman is so far a cipher. But I'll accept a lame character or two for the sake of Druid and the Mummy.

Speaking of lame characters, get the Imperial Guard out of here--I don't like the originals of these characters, I don't see any reason to read about their copies. The Squadron Supreme is considerably better, though it's about time to get them back to their own dimension. It seems unlikely they would just sit at Project: Pegasus all these months.

I seem to have gotten through an entire letter to QUASAR without mentioning Quasar. So concerning him I'll say: nice hair! And I mean that. Shaun Cassidy and the BeeGees must be dying of envy.

Bradford R. Poston
4075 E. Rover Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85718

Hey, we got rid of his overgrown mop look, and you still don't like his hair? Sheesh! Funny, but the "lame" characters you didn't like have some vocal fans, too. To wit...

Dear Mike and Joe,

Congratulations on the introduction of the Shock Troop. I'm not usually a fan of Doctor Druid but he seems to have found his niche as leader of this group. It was also a real pleasure to see N'Kantu doing something other than wandering aimlessly about the deserts of Egypt. But the one that *really* interests me is the Blazing Skull! Correct me if I'm wrong, but despite the name, I don't think this is the 40s hero that was featured in THE INVADERS. I think this is the guy who first appeared in the 70s as the title character of SKULL THE SLAYER. I hope so, as I always felt he had a lot of potential that wasn't realized. If I'm right, I assume his powers are derived from the alien power belt which he still had at the end of his last appearance in MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE. As for Shadowoman, why is she wearing the old Spider-Woman's costume? Is there a connection?

Anyway, how about a limited series for the Shock Troop? You could start with the origin, revealing how Doc got them together, and filling in the gaps in the backgrounds of the individual members.

Getting back to QUASAR, this was the best issue in a long time. I was relieved to see the Antibody storyline drawn to a close. Perhaps now you can get Wendell out into space and reunited with Kayla. The Starbrand subplot's dragged on a bit but I guess you're building toward the 50th issue.

QUASAR may never be a best seller but it's always a good read and a permanent fixture on my reading list.

Andy Cross
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United Kingdom

What more could we ask of any fan? Congratulations are in order, Andy, for out of all our correspondents to date, only you and Nelson Jiminez of Stamford, CT guessed that the Blazing Skull was the former Skull the Slayer. To confim your hypothesis, check out CAPTAIN AMERICA #420, on sale now, for more Skull-duggery. (Who says we can't cross-promote?)

Dear Gentlemen,

Re: Issue #46.

"The essence of the original Antibody has been dispatched to...." ARRRGH! Don't leave us hanging! Where? Pittsburgh? (A bad place to be when Starbrands are afoot.) Lake Wobegon? Dang, now it's going to bug me for a month.

The best part of the story was Quasar's attempts to reason with the Presence and Neutron. In the field of comics, talking one's way out of fights is so rare that it seems ingenious, and yet we all know it's the best way to get radioactive dissidents off one's back. I found myself wishing that Quasar had tried to win some prestige points with Neutron by telling him he'd met Glakandar, no doubt a great hero to Stygians everywhere.

Which brings me to my next point: how about running back-up stories on the previous Protectors of the Universe? I'm sure there are more than a few stories to tell.

Other predictions: 1. Quasar will someday have to pick which Contemplator is the real one; he'll do it by checking their belly buttons. 2. The Presence will run for political office in Russia. (If a guy with a jelly stain on his head can do it, why not a radioactive man?) 3. Dr. Druid will finish his sentence about where Shemp the Antibody went.

Lou DuChez
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